

This year we are renaming our Medina Relays. From now on it will be the **Medina – Tom Fasko – Relays**. Tom Fasko was born in Cleveland and raised in Maple Heights, where he and his siblings, Jerry and Ellen learned solid family values. There he formed life-long friendships along with interests in fishing, gardening and sports. He attended Cleveland Central Catholic High School and Muskingum College, where he was a starting defensive back on a conference championship team. He graduated from Baldwin Wallace College in 1979.

Tom returned to his alma mater to teach math and coach with his brother during the best five years of CCC Ironmen football, which included four conference championships. During his four years as head track & field coach he revitalized a program that gained momentum and success.

He joined the teaching, football, and track & field coaching staffs at Brunswick High School in 1983, contributing to the success of teams, state qualifiers, placers, and champions. In a noteworthy term as gridiron head coach at Brunswick, Fasko's Blue Devils competed in the 1995 state championship game and earned a 40 – 6 record in his last four years, with back-to-back undefeated seasons. He was inducted into the Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame in 2014.

The Fasko family moved to Medina in 1991. In 1998 Tom was hired to teach at Medina High School, plus coach football and track & field. While emphasizing teamwork and personal best goals, being a part of the development and accomplishments of student-athletes truly made him happy. Scores of former students were impacted by his engaging teaching style and patient tutoring. After retirement he was a familiar substitute teacher and continued coaching track & field at Medina and football at Brunswick. He enjoyed the fellowship of other coaches while encouraging discipline, technique, fun and positivity. Coach Fasko contributed a lifetime total of 40+ years as a football and track & field mentor.

A devoted husband to Allison for 37 years and a dedicated family man, Tom shared the halls of Medina High School with three daughters, Tara, Marissa, and Kate. Upon their marriages, he was pleased to welcome into the family his "My 3 Sons." Spending time with his three grandchildren, Annaca, Everett and Quinn was a priority and joy. Tom had a master's degree in sports science from Ashland University and was a loyal Cleveland Browns fan.

Practical, disciplined, funny, proud yet humble, Tom never had a bad word to say about anybody. He had an inner drive to help students and athletes strive to do and be their best. Both in the classroom and on the field or track, his belief in everyone's abilities instilled confidence. His affiliation with any program spelled statistical success, along with the far-reaching ripple effects of his love of teaching and life. With his life shortened unexpectedly from a cardiac event at age 62 last fall, Coach Tom Fasko's time and commitment to family, students, and sports leave a remarkable legacy.